

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for winding a wire, comprising:

an annular guide having a notch for guiding the wire, an inner peripheral surface whose diameter gradually increases in a direction away from a take-up bobbin, movably positioned to cover one of a plurality of collars of the take-up bobbin for the wire, and having an engagement portion extending from the inner peripheral surface for preventing the wire from springing out of the take-up bobbin.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for winding a wire as defined in claim 1, wherein the annular guide is disposed so that it is movable in an axial direction of the bobbin.
4. (Previously Presented-Withdrawn) An apparatus for winding a wire as defined in claim 1, wherein the annular guide comprises a plurality of portions which move to form the annular guide.
5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for winding a wire as defined in claim 1, wherein the apparatus comprises a wire positioning device for guiding the cut terminal portion of the wire.

6. (Original) An apparatus for winding a wire as defined in claim 5, wherein the wire positioning device comprises a guide rod for moving the wire and a guide plate for preventing the spring of the wire.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method of winding a wire wherein the method comprises the steps of:

winding a wire on a take-up bobbin;

guiding a cut terminal portion of the wire to a notch of an annular guide which covers one of collars of the take-up bobbin on completion of winding the wire;

guiding the cut terminal portion of the wire to the outside of the take-up bobbin along the inner peripheral surface of the annular guide whose diameter increases in a direction away from the bobbin; and

engaging the cut terminal portion of the wire with an engagement portion provided on the annular guide by centrifugal force caused by the rotation of the take-up bobbin.

9. (Previously Presented) A method of winding a wire as defined in claim 8, wherein the annular guide is moved to cover one of the collars of the take-up bobbin when the winding of the wire is completed.